



Luton Rural District Council.

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ANNUAL  
REPORT  
of

Medical Officer of Health,  
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector  
for the  
YEAR 1938.



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# To the Luton Rural District Council.

## Medical Officer's Annual Report, 1938.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions prevailing in your Area for the year ending 1938.

This report is drawn up in accordance with the Ministry of Health's circular 1728, dated 25th October, 1938.

### Section A. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

#### General Statistics.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	48,590
Population—						
Census for 1931	...	...	...	...	...	13,275
Estimated for the mid-year 1938	...	...	...	...	...	15,560
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	5,129
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£71,051
Sum represented by a penny rate (net)	...	...	...	...	...	£261

### Social Conditions and the Extent of Unemployment.

The chief occupation of the district is agricultural, but there are large cement works at Sundon and Houghton Regis and smaller lime works at Barton, Sewell and Totternhoe. There is also a large florist at Eaton Bray, who employs a fair number of hands in the immediate neighbourhood.

#### Unemployment.

I append below the percentage of unemployed on April 17th, 1939.

Bedfordshire	...	...	5.0
Bedford	...	...	3.8
Dunstable	...	...	9.9
Leighton Buzzard	...	...	6.3
Luton	...	...	4.5
Biggleswade	...	...	7.8

### Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total	Males	Females	
Live	{ Legitimate	265	145	120	Birth Rate per 1,000 of resident population 18.06.
Births	{ Illegitimate	16	9	7	
Still	{ Legitimate	4	3	1	Birth rate per 1,000 Births (live and still), 14.03.
Births	{ Illegitimate	0	0	0	
Deaths	-	161	86	75	Death rate 10.3 per 1,000 of estimated resident population, but when this figure

has been multiplied by the Comparability Factor, the corrected death rate will be 9.27. The corresponding figures for England:—

Birth rate	...	...	15.1
Death rate	...	...	11.6

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :

Deaths.

No. 29.	Puerperal Sepsis	0
No. 30.	Other Puerperal causes	0

Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births is nil.

The corresponding figure for England and Wales being as follows:—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	.86	per 1,000 live and still births
Others	...	2.11	„ „ „

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	49.8	
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	52.8	
Illegitimate	„	„	illegitimate „	...	0

Causes of Death :—						M	F
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other Tuberculosis diseases	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
General Paralysis of Insane, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	11	12
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	2	5
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	14	18
Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Other Circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	8	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Other Respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Other Liver diseases	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Other Digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	4	5

Causes of Death (continued) :						M	F
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	2	0
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Congenital causes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
Senility	...	...	...	...	...	7	6
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Other Violence	...	...	...	...	...	7	5
Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	11	6
Ill-defined causes	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
						<hr/> 86	<hr/> 75
						<hr/>	<hr/>

## Section B. General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

### 1. (i) Public Health Officers :—

Dr. W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.P.H. Camb., D.M.R.E. Camb. Medical Officer of Health (part-time to your Authority, but devotes whole time to duties of M.O.H.)

Col. J. Macarthur, O.B.E., M.R.C.V.S. Meat Inspector (part-time).

Mr. Harold Pickering, M.Inst. M. & Cy.E., A.R.San.I., F.R.S.A., Engineer and Surveyor (whole time).

Mr. J. A. Murch, A.M. Inst. M. & Cy.E., A.M.T.P.I., Deputy Engineer and Surveyor (whole time).

Mr. E. J. Morgans, B.Sc., A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

### (ii) (a) Laboratory Facilities :—

The examination of Pathological and Bacteriological specimens is made by the Clinical Research Association of Watergate House, York Buildings, Adelphi, London, W.C.2.

Examinations for the year under review—

Number of specimens examined	...	...	...	59
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### (b) Ambulance Facilities :—

For Infectious Diseases. A motor Ambulance is kept at the Kensworth Isolation Hospital.

For Non-Infectious Diseases. A Public Ambulance is kept at the Luton Police Station (Telephone No. 2210). Another Ambulance is maintained by the British Red Cross Society and is kept at Dunstable (Telephone No. 42). These are available for your district.

I consider these Ambulance arrangements are quite adequate. There is an understanding among the neighbouring Authorities that their Ambulances would be available in a case of emergency.

**(c) Nursing in the Home :—**

The Bedfordshire County Nursing Association supplies 6 nurses to thirteen villages in your district. These Nurses attend to Maternity cases principally, but also to minor Medical and Surgical ailments. They are not allowed to attend to any disease of an infectious nature.

The nurses are supervised by Local Associations. The salaries for these nurses are raised by voluntary contributions, by small fees which are charged to non-members requiring their services and are subsidised by a grant from the County Council.

The following villages are supplied with the names of the nurses :—

Barton	...	...	...	Nurse Currie.
Streatley	...	...	...	Nurse Currie.
Sharpenhoe	...	...	...	Nurse Currie.
Caddington	...	...	...	Nurse Chadwick.
Eaton Bray	...	...	...	Nurse Slade, S.R.N.
Totternhoe	...	...	...	Nurse Slade, S.R.N.
Hockliffe	...	...	...	Nurse Cooper.
Eggington	...	...	...	Nurse Cooper.
Stanbridge	...	...	...	Nurse Cooper.
Tilsworth	...	...	...	Nurse Cooper.
Houghton Regis	...	...	...	Nurse Cox.
Toddington	...	...	...	Nurse Maxwell.
Chalton	...	...	...	Nurse Maxwell.

**Midwives :—**

The number of Midwives practising in the area is eleven.

**Infectious Cases :—**

There is no provision made for the treatment of infectious cases in the patient's own home. An Isolation Hospital for the treatment of these diseases is provided free of charge.

**(d) Clinics and Treatment Centre :—**

These are provided by the County Council.

**(e) Hospital :—**

There is an Isolation Hospital at Kensworth which is included in the Dunstable Borough, for the reception of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever. This is under a joint board composed of members of your Council, the Dunstable Borough and the Leighton Buzzard Urban District Council.

There are no other Public Hospitals belonging to your Authority.

There is a Voluntary Hospital in Luton which treats Medical and Surgical Cases.

**Legislation in Force.**

Adoptive Acts:—Nil.

Bye-laws and Regulations:—

- Prevention of Nuisances.
- Cleansing of Earth Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools.
- Removal of Refuse and Noxious Matter.
- Cleansing of Footways.
- New Streets and Buildings.
- Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.
- Slaughter Houses.
- Drainage of Existing Buildings.

**Section C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

**Water.** Rainfall at Hockliffe.

1938 MONTH.	TOTAL INCHES	Greatest rainfall in 24 hours.		Number of days with .01" or more	Number of days with .04" or more
		Inches.	Date.		
January	2.96	.4	11th	20	17
February	.70	.22	26th	12	6
March	.32	.13	24th	4	3
April	.06	.03	21st	3	0
May	1.64	.67	28th	10	7
June	.73	.24	27th	6	3
July	2.54	.37	2nd & 5th	13	11
August	3.95	.91	12th	13	11
September	1.17	.30	27th	12	9
October	3.19	.50	3rd	18	14
November	2.49	.53	25th	14	12
December	4.02	1.40	21st	19	16
	23.77			144	109

These figures are kindly supplied to me by the Councillor for Hockliffe,  
Mr. C. J. Kilby.



# Rainfall at Whipsnade Park.

1938. MONTH.	TOTAL INCHES.	Greatest rainfall in 24 hours.		Number of days with .01" or more	Number of days with .04" or more
		Inches	Date.		
January	3.10	.32	11th	25	18
February	0.73	.31	26th	17	4
March	0.43	.16	24th	6	3
April	0.19	.08	30th	8	1
May	2.10	.86	28th	15	9
June	0.82	.27	1st	9	4
July	1.54	.55	7th	15	9
August	2.06	.61	28th	14	10
September	1.72	.50	27th	20	12
October	3.24	.78	3rd	19	15
November	3.21	.57	25th	20	13
December	3.72	.86	9th	26	17
	22.85			194	115

These figures are kindly supplied to me by Captain W. P. B. Beal, of Whipsnade Park.

Below I append the water details of all the parishes in the District.

Parish.	Population 1931 Census Part ii.	Amount of water required daily in gallons.	Present source of supply.	Proposed source of supply.	Remarks.
Barton	857	8570	Bore-well		
Billington	242	2420	Wells	*From Battlesden	
Caddington and Slip End	1579	31580	Bore-well		
Eaton Bray	1042	20840	From Dunstable		
Eggington	243	2430	Wells	*From	} In progress
Heath and Reach	946	9460	Wells and Leighton Buzzard	*From	
Hockliffe	444	4440	Wells	*From	
Houghton Regis	1754	35080	From Dunstable		
Hyde and part of Stopsley	721	7210	From Luton Hoo private supply, and Luton Water Co., Harpenden Water Co. and shallow wells.		
Kensworth	556	5560	From existing bore-well at Council Houses and private deep well.		Partially supplied from Council Mains
Streatley Sharpenhoe and part of Stopsley	470	9400	Bore-well Deep well		
Studham	339	3390	Bore-well		
Sundon	460	9200	Bore-well and Luton Water Co.		
Stanbridge	377	3770	Wells	*From	} In progress
Tilsworth	188	1880	Wells	*From	
Chalgrave Tebworth	377	3770	Wells	*From	
Toddington Chalton	2082	41640	Wells	*From	
Totternhoe	511	5110	From Dunstable		
Whipsnade	87	870	Deep well	From Kensworth	

\* It is proposed to utilize a deep bore well at Battlesden when completed instead of the proposed source of supply in these parishes. At Eggington a temporary piped supply has been provided to serve part of the parish until some permanent supply has been inaugurated.

# Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report, 1938.

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## Section C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

### 1. (i) Water.

#### (a) Piped Supplies.

##### **Barton.**

The laying of the mains at Barton was completed early in 1938.

##### **Caddington and Slip-End.**

The hitherto independent schemes at Caddington and Slip-End have now been linked up, and a further extension made in Mancroft Road. Both these extensions serve newly erected properties.

##### **Eaton Bray.**

At Eaton Bray further extensions have been made during the year, and internal connections have been made to the Council houses in the Parish.

##### **Eggington.**

The supply at Eggington is of a temporary nature, and its use is restricted pending the coming into operation of the Battlesden scheme.

##### **Heath and Reach.**

Mains have been laid throughout the village of Heath and Reach and connected up to the mains of the Leighton Buzzard U.D.C., from whom a supply is being obtained until the Battlesden Scheme is in operation.

##### **Houghton Regis.**

At Houghton Regis a 130 yards extension of the mains of the Dunstable Gas and Water Company has been made to a new Housing site in King Street, and another Building estate on the Sundon Road necessitated another extension of some 300 yards.

##### **Hyde.**

In Hyde Parish the Harpenden Water Company's mains have been extended for a length of 1,100 yards of 3in. pipe principally to the site of the new sewerage disposal works of the Corporation of Luton.

##### **Kensworth.**

Council mains have been laid in the new Housing estate, Beech Road, the water being supplied by the Dunstable Gas and Water Company.

## (b) Wells.

With the increase in the area served by piped supplies, the use of wells of unsuitable character for domestic use has been greatly reduced at Barton, Caddington, Eaton Bray, Heath and Reach, Kensworth, Totternhoe and Sundon.

At periodic intervals during the year Chemical and Bacteriological samples have been taken of the public supplies, the results being carefully examined for any abnormal conditions which may indicate pollution. As a result, it was found necessary at one short period to treat by chlorination, the public supplies at Sundon and Streatley.

The new Borewell at Kensworth, sunk through the Middle chalk series, yielded a water of high Bacterial count in the early stages of completion, but with the settling of the water after test pumping, a further sampling indicated a water of much improved quality, but of a "hard" nature.

## (c) Water Analyses.

Wells from which public supplies are drawn have been subjected to analysis, and the following results from these analyses have been obtained during the year. In all cases, where the initial analysis revealed unsatisfactory features, steps were taken to secure the desired standard. (Note: The letters C and B indicate that a chemical and/or Bacteriological examination was carried out.)

(1)	Borewell, Streatley (C)	...	Fit for domestic use.
(2)	Village Well, Heath (C)	...	Water of good quality.
(3)	Borewell, Streatley (C)	...	Chemically satisfactory.
(4)	Borewell, Sundon (C)	...	Satisfactory.
(5)	Borewell, Barton (C)	...	Water of good quality.
(6)	Storage Tank, Barton (C)	...	Chemically satisfactory.
(7)	Borewell, Streatley (C)	...	Water unsatisfactory.
(8)	Public Well, Toddington (C)	...	Unsuitable for domestic use.
(9)	New Borewell, Kensworth (C)		Of good quality.
(10)	Borewell, Slip-End (C)	...	Presence of nitrates, unsatisfactory
(11)	Borewell, Caddington (C)	...	Presence of nitrates, unsatisfactory
(12)	Old Borewell, Kensworth (C)	...	Unsatisfactory features.
(13)	Borewell, Studham (C)	...	Water of good quality.
(14)	Borewell, Sundon (B)	...	Unfit for human consumption.
(15)	Borewell, Streatley (B)	...	Cannot be considered safe.
(16)	Boring, Barton (B)	...	Water very satisfactory.
(17)	New Boring, Kensworth (B)	...	Has high Bacterial count.
(18)	New Boring, Kensworth (C)	...	Shows increase of nitrates.
(19)	New Boring, Kensworth (C&B)		Water now satisfactory, but "hard."
(20)	Borewell, Sundon (B)	...	Now satisfactory for drinking purposes.
(21)	Borewell, Streatley (B)	...	Now satisfactory for drinking purposes.

Throughout the whole of the district, a considerable number of wells affording supplies to private properties have been subjected to analysis, and a summary of the resulting reports are as follows:—

The number of samples analysed	...	...	219
Number of wells suitable for domestic use	...	46	
Number of wells polluted and unsuitable for domestic use	...	...	173

**General.**

Water is still being carted to the Council Houses at Billington, Stanbridge, and Febworth, where the supplies remain unsatisfactory at present.

This carting will no longer be necessary when piped supplies will be available on the completion of the Battlesden Borewell scheme.

Of the public supplies, records of their working have indicated that there is no shortage in yield.

**1. (ii) Drainage and Sewerage.**

**(a) Barton.**

The septic tanks have been thoroughly cleaned out twice during the year and the ditch receiving the effluent has been cleared periodically. An extension has been made in Old Road to connect an outlying cesspool to the new sewer in that area.

**(b) Caddington.**

Surveys have been made, and estimates are in the course of preparation for the sewerage of the whole of the more populous area of the parish. There were further cases where the exclusion of storm water from cesspools was carried out. Complaints as to cesspool accommodation in Mancroft Road was the subject of a report to the Ministry of Health during the year.

**(c) Eaton Bray.**

Periodical cleaning of the irrigated area at the disposal works has been carried out during the year, together with the flushing of the sewers at intervals. Improvements in the conditions are being considered, with the proposal for a joint scheme with the adjoining parish of Eddlesborough.

**(d) Eggington.**

Open sewers in the village have been cleaned, and the septic tanks and filters at the Council Houses continue to operate satisfactorily.

**(e) Heath and Reach.**

Open sewers have been cleaned in Woburn Road, and Linslade Road, and the filters in Thrift Road have been cleaned. Sewers in other parts of the village have been flushed periodically.

(f) **Hockliffe.**

Open sewers have been cleaned in Church Lane and Watling Street.

(g) **Houghton Regis.**

Temporary blockages in the sewer have necessitated reconstruction of private drains, and with periodic flushing the trouble has not recurred. An extension of the sewer has been made in Sundon Road to serve houses erected on a new building site.

(h) **Stanbridge.**

The cleaning of the open sewers and the flushing of the piped sewer have been carried out periodically.

(i) **Sundon.**

The Sewer in Common Lane has been thoroughly cleaned and all the sewers have been periodically flushed.

(j) **Tebworth.**

The open sewers in Watergate Lane and in the centre of the village have been thoroughly cleaned.

(k) **Tilsworth.**

Open sewers in the village have been cleaned periodically.

(l) **Toddington.**

The open sewers and outfalls have been cleaned as required and similar treatment has been given to those at Chalton and Fancott. The filters serving the Council Houses in Dunstable Road have been cleared twice during the year.

The laying of the new sewers throughout the whole of the village, together with the construction of the new disposal works is well advanced and the whole scheme will be completed in the early months of the new year. The relaying of the drains of several properties and the connections of the drains to the sewer has necessitated action under the Public Health Act, 1936 (Sec. 39) in forty-eight cases where defective drains were found.

(m) **General.**

Proposals for the sewerage of the whole of the district are progressing and estimates for the suggested schemes have been submitted to the County Council.

## 2. **Rivers and Streams.**

There are no rivers of any size in the District. There are a few streams of moderate size, and no action was required during the year for the prevention of pollution of these streams.



### **3. (i) Closet Accommodation.**

Further connections to the Sewers have been made at Barton, Eaton Bray and Houghton Regis and in the houses concerned eleven changes have been made in the closet accommodation from the conservancy system to the water carriage system. Several water closets have also replaced pail closets in Caddington, Kensworth and Totternhoe, but in these cases disposal is made into Cesspools.

Further demolitions of privies during the year have been effected at Toddington, Houghton Regis, Streatley and Billington, and in these cases have been replaced by pail closets.

With the completion of the water scheme at Eaton Bray, flushing cisterns have been provided to closets in the Council houses in the parish, these closets being formerly hand flushed.

### **3. (ii) Public Cleansing.**

The collection of house refuse and the scavenging of pail closets and privies continues in the parishes as listed in the previous reports, and the quarterly collection of indestructible refuse is performed in the other parishes in the district. Separate contracts for the various parishes were discontinued during the year and the whole of the scavenging of the house refuse and pail closets is now performed under one contractor; a motor driven covered freighter of 8.5 cubic yards capacity is used. This new procedure has made possible a more centralised supervision and tipping, all refuse now being disposed of at two tips, although negotiations are proceeding for the securing of a third tip. Except for occasional instances of insufficient cover, which received immediate attention, no cause for complaint has arisen.

The majority of the refuse collected has been taken from proper Sanitary bins; 73 new regulation dustbins have been required by notice during the year, in cases where no proper immediate provisions had been made for refuse, or where the existing bins had become defective.

Notices were also required during the year regarding the deposit of wet refuse in bins.

There is also a quarterly collection of indestructible refuse which is carried out by a separate contractor in those parishes where there is no regular collection of household refuse.

The provision of litter bins throughout the district, subject to agreement with the suppliers as to the terms, is under consideration.

The work performed by the two vehicles engaged in emptying cesspools in the district has proceeded satisfactorily during the year. Throughout the year 27 sewers were flushed on a total of 47 occasions. This work is carried out by the Council's employees.

### **3. (iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**

All sewer outfalls, open sewers and ditches in the District have been inspected periodically, and as occasions have demanded. Further inspections have been made of the existing sanitary accommodation in the Parish of Caddington, where surveys have been made of the proposed sewerage scheme.

## Report of Nuisances.

Informal Notices	...	...	69
Statutory Notices	...	...	35

## Defects remedied.

(1) Dampness	...	...	...	4
(2) Drainage and closets	...	...	...	28
(3) Doors and Windows	...	...	...	9
(4) Roofs and gutters repaired	...	...	...	9
(5) Pail closets renewed	...	...	...	7
(6) Privies cleansed and cleared	...	...	...	8
(7) Pavings and yards	...	...	...	2
(8) Dustbins renewed	...	...	...	73
(9) Refuse dumps covered	...	...	...	14
(10) Rat infestation	...	...	...	1

## Houses repaired.

Number of houses	...	...	...	488
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## Details of defects remedied.

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	67
Walls treated for dampness	...	...	...	4
Other brickwork	...	...	...	23
Sink wastes, drains, etc.	...	...	...	83
Doors and windows	...	...	...	227
Floors (repaired and renewed)	...	...	...	54
Coppers (repaired or renewed)	...	...	...	108
Ranges, grates, etc.	...	...	...	193
Plaster repairs, walls and ceilings, etc.	...	...	...	118
New ceilings	...	...	...	28
Rooms cleansed and distempered	...	...	...	377
Rooms papered	...	...	...	88
Hand rails	...	...	...	3
New dustbins	...	...	...	134
New sanitary buckets	...	...	...	79
Repairs to water closets	...	...	...	45
Pavings	...	...	...	30
Foundations	...	...	...	1
Water services	...	...	...	18

## Summary of Inspections.

	No. of Inspections.	Defects noted and remedied.
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces	... 216	32
Number of Outworkers on Register	... 49	0
Schools	... 11	1
Lands and Premises (after complaint)	... 103	60
Licensed Premises	... 55	7
Knackers Yards	... 10	0



### 3. (iv) **Shops and Offices.**

In two cases during the year improvements have been effected in sanitary accommodation and ventilation where alterations to premises were made.

New Factory Premises and Shops erected during the year were each adequately provided with sanitary accommodation and ventilation. It was not found necessary to take any action under circular 1600, dated May 1st, 1937.

### 3. (v) **Camping Sites.**

- |   |        |    |
|---|--------|----|
| (1) The number of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1938 were                                   | ... .. | 11 |
| (2) Number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the L.A. under section 269 of the P.H.A., 1936 | ... .. | 1  |
| (3) The estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the Summer Season 1938                  | ... .. | 60 |

An appeal against the Council's decision to withhold a land licence in respect of a site at Caddington was quashed.

Two notices were served on owners having sites occupied without licences.

### 3. (vi) **Smoke Abatement.**

Further efforts have been made to remedy the spread of dust from a cement works at Houghton Regis, and the three kilns have been connected to the dust collecting apparatus. The arrangements were examined by a Ministry of Health Inspector who expressed his satisfaction of the methods of dust prevention employed.

Other industrial processes in the District are such that little smoke is emitted and no complaints have been received in this connection.

### 3. (vii) **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

There are no public baths, or privately owned baths and pools, open to the public, in the District.

### 3. (viii) **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

- (1) The number of houses found to be infested were:—

Council Houses	... ..	4
Other Houses	... ..	7
Houses suspected of being infested, but on examination found to be free	... ..	3

Disinfestation of the above eleven houses was carried out by the Council.

- (2) The methods employed have followed the same lines as previously, and both block disinfestors and liquid fumigants have been used and the appropriate conditions for disinfestation have been secured for each method employed. The block fumigators used were Lawes disinfestators (1,000 cubic feet capacity), and liquid fumigants were Zaldecide, and Lawvercide.

No extreme cases were found during the year which necessitated the destruction of any household furniture, etc., and the methods used were successful in obtaining freedom from infestation.

(3) The suspected premises of prospective tenants of Council houses are examined for evidence of infestation prior to transfers to the Council house. No case occurred during the year for any further action in these circumstances.

(4) The work of disinfection has been carried out entirely by the Local Authority.

(5) Instructions continue to be given to tenants as to precautions to be observed and no opportunity is missed to emphasize the importance of general cleanliness.

## Section D. Housing.

### 1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	1,366
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	1,709
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	... ..	949
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	1,079
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	9
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-section) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	69
	Houses reconditioned and closing orders determined	...	54

### 2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—

(1)	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	... ..	488
-----	---	--------	-----

### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
(1)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	6
(2)	No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—		
(a)	By owners	... ..	8
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	...	0

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	21
(2) No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners ... ..	21
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... ..	5
(2) No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... ..	29

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	0
(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	0

**4. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.**

(a) (1) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ...	0
(2) No. of families dwelling therein ... ..	0
(3) No. of persons dwelling therein ... ..	0
(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	16
(c) (1) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	16
(2) No. of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	104
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...	0

**5. No. of new houses erected during the year.**

(a) By the Local Authority ... ..	8
(b) By other Local Authorities ... ..	0
(c) By other bodies and persons ... ..	248

**Section E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.**

The sampling of milk, food and drugs is undertaken by the County Council.

Inspection of premises are as follows:—

			No. of Inspections.	Defects noted and Remedied.
Cowsheds and Dairies	...		130	49
Slaughter Houses	...	...	96	4
Bakehouses	...	...	28	5

**(a) Milk Supply.**

During the year the following additions were made to the registers:—

(1)	Registered premises	...	...	...	6
(2)	Wholesale producers	...	...	...	2
(3)	Retail purveyors	...	...	...	5

Premises during the year have been reasonably maintained, though general cleanliness has been the subject of frequent informal notices. Other major matters requiring notices have been the repairing of floors with maintenance of efficient drainage, and the proper sterilising of utensils; in one case, the whole of the floor and standings was reconstructed in concrete.

Retail premises have, in the main, been generally satisfactory. Inspections of premises during the year numbered 130 and in 49 cases defects were noted and remedied.

**(b) Meat and other Foods. Slaughter Houses.**

The total number of private slaughter houses in the District is 22. Of these 7 have not been in use during the year.

The number of inspections to the premises made by the Veterinary Inspector up to the 31st September was 224. The number of visits from 1st October to 31st December was 66.

**Carcases Inspected and Condemned (from 1st October).**

			Cattle excluding			Sheep and	
			Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed if known	...		—	—	—	—	—
Number Inspected	...	...	14	13	—	51	43
All diseases except T.B. whole carcasses condemned	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than T.B.			—	—	—	—	—

<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>	Cattle excluding		Sheep and		
	Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Lambs.	Pigs.
Whole carcase condemned ...	—	3	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	4	—	—	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	63%	—	—	2.3%

In addition to the above 140lbs. of Chilled Australian Beef was voluntarily surrendered and disposed of as being unfit for human consumption, by reason of extensive bruising.

**(c) Adulteration of Food, etc.**

The Food and Drugs Adulteration Acts are administered by the County Council.

**(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.**

There has been no necessity by this Council to submit any samples of food for any Bacteriological examination.

**(e) Nutrition.**

There has been no action taken in the question of lectures, films, etc., for the general public.

**(f) Shellfish (Molluscan).**

There are no shellfish beds or layings in the district. No action was consequently necessary.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**E. J. MORGANS,**

Sanitary Inspector.

*N.B. The Engineer and Surveyor (Mr. H. Pickering) acted as Sanitary Inspector (dual appointment) until the 31st of August, Mr. Morgan taking up duties on the 1st September.*

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1938, for the Rural District of Luton, in the County of Beds.  
on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories  
Act, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938).

## 1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power ...	35	1	
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power ...	181	4	
† <b>Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ...			
†Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories. <b>Total</b> ...	216	5	

## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prose- cutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ...	25	25	1	
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...				
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) ...				
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4) ...	3	3		
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	4	4		
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) { insufficient ... unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes...				
Other offences ...				
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937).				
<b>Total</b> ...	32	32		

There is no outwork in unwholesome premises.



## The Sanitation and Water Supply of Elementary Schools.

School.	Council or Church of England.	Average number of Scholars on roll	Average attendance.	Type of Closet.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Disposal of Excreta.	Drinking Water.
Barton	C. of E.	145	128	E.C.	2	4	2	Removed twice w'kly	Main
Billington	C. of E.	23	21	E.C.	2	2	2	Removed twice w'kly	Pump
Caddington	C.C.	169	147	E.C.	1	2	1	Drying Shed	Main
Slip End	C.C.	144	130	E.C.	2	3		As often as needed	Main
Eaton Bray (Mixed)	C.C.	73	63	W.C.	3	6		Sewer	Main Supply
Eggington	C.C.	14	13	E.C.	1	1	1	Removed weekly	None
Hockliffe	C. of E.	53	48	E.C.	2	1	1	Removed twice w'kly	Pump at School House
Heath & Reach	C. of E.	77	69	E.C.	2	4	1	Drying Shed Removed twice w'kly	Main
Houghton Regis	C. of E.	96	88	W.C.	3	2	2	Sewer	Main Supply
Houghton Regis	C.C.	107	91	W.C.	3	3	2	Sewer	Main Supply
Hyde	C.C.	28	24	W.C.	2	3		To dumb well	Well
Kensworth	C. of E.	54	50	E.C.	1	1	1	Removed twice w'kly	None
Stanbridge	C.C.	38	33	E.C.	2	2		Removed twice w'kly	None
Streatley	C.C.	39	35	E.C.	2	2		Removed twice w'kly	Main
Studham	C. of E.	36	33	E.C.	2	2		Removed weekly	Main
Sundon	C.C.	74	68	E.C.	2	2		Removed twice w'kly	Main
Tebworth	C. of E.	18	17	E.C.	2	3		Removed weekly	Village Pump
Toddington	C. of E.	148	134	E.C.	3	3	4	Removed twice w'kly	From School House
Toddington	C.C.	98	89	E.C.	2	6		Removed weekly	Well and Pump
Chalton	C.C.	27	25	E.C.	2	3		Removed weekly	None
Totternhoe	C. of E.	47	41	E.C.	2	3		Removed weekly	From School House Well

### School Closure.

The Kensworth Junior School was closed for one day, March 1st, 1938, to disinfect the School after a case of Diphtheria.

**Section F. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.**

The Dunstable and District Joint Isolation Hospital, Kensworth, receives cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever from your district.

The following additions have been made during the year, namely, a block of eight cubicles with observation room and usual offices, also four bedrooms, bathroom and maids' sitting room in the Administration Block. The hospital is now connected to the Dunstable sewer.

The total number of beds at the Hospital is 50.

The number of patients from your district treated during the year under review is set out below.

Patients in Hospital on January 1st, 1938:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	2
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
Other cases	...	...	...	...	0

Admissions:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	12
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	11
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	2
Other cases (Tonsillitis)	...	...	...	...	1

Discharges:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	14
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	11
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	2
Other cases (Tonsillitis)	...	...	...	...	1

Deaths	...	...	...	...	0
--------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Patients remaining in Hospital December 31st, 1938:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	0
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
Other cases	...	...	...	...	0

**Scarlet Fever.**

Twelve cases were notified, all were treated in the Isolation Hospital. No deaths occurred. These cases came from seven different parishes, not more than three in any one parish.

**Diphtheria.**

Twelve cases were recorded, all of whom were treated in the Isolation Hospital. Seven parishes were affected, the greatest number of cases occurring in one parish being four (Caddington). No deaths occurred.

**Pneumonia.**

Nine cases were notified; five deaths were registered.



Erysipelas.

Three cases were notified, two of whom were treated in Hospital.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case was notified which completely recovered.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

No cases recorded.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Erysipelas.
Total Cases notified ...	12	12	9		1	3
Cases admitted to Hospital...	12	12			1	2
Total Deaths ... ..			5			
Cases under 1 year ... ..			2		1	
Deaths " " " ... ..						
Cases from 1—2 years ...	1	1				
Deaths " " " ... ..						
Cases from 2—3 years ...	1		1			
Deaths " " " ... ..						
Cases from 3—4 years ...	3					
Deaths " " " ... ..						
Cases from 4—5 years ..	2		1			
Deaths " " " ... ..						
Cases from 5—10 years ...	1	5	1			
Deaths " " " ... ..						
Cases from 10—15 years ...	3	2				
Deaths " " " ... ..						
Cases from 15—20 years ...		1				
Deaths " " " ... ..						
Cases from 20—35 years ...		3	2			1
Deaths " " " ... ..			1			
Cases from 35—45 years ...						1
Deaths " " " ... ..						
Cases from 45—65 years ...	1		1			1
Deaths " " " ... ..			1			
Cases from 65 and upwards			1			
Deaths " " " " ... ..			3			

## Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

Villages.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Erysipelas.
Caddington ... ..		4				
Houghton Regis ... ..	2				1	
Toddington ... ..			1			
Heath & Reach ... ..		1	1			1
Kensworth ... ..						
Stanbridge ... ..	1					
Totternhoe ... ..	2	1				1
Streatley ... ..	1		4			
Barton ... ..		1	2			
Sundon ... ..	3	1	1			
Billington ... ..		2				1
Eggington ... ..		2				
Studham ... ..	1					
Tilsworth ... ..	2					

## Non-Notifiable Diseases.

### Measles.

Epidemics occurred among the school children at Barton, Caddington, Heath, Kensworth, Toddington, Hyde, Sundon, Houghton Regis, Hockliffe and Eaton Bray.

### Chicken Pox.

Among the following villages there were epidemics of this disease :—Totternhoe, Toddington, Houghton Regis, Studham, Sundon, Barton and Kensworth.

### Whooping Cough.

Eight villages were affected, viz.:—Totternhoe, Eaton Bray, Hyde, Houghton Regis, Toddington, Studham, Chalgrave and Kensworth.

### Cancer.

There have been 23 deaths under this heading, 11 males and 12 females. I append below the organs attacked in each sex and their ages.

#### Males.

Alimentary Canal—10 deaths, ages 74, 47, 23, 70, 75, 70, 66, 56, 79, 57.  
Respiratory System—1 death, aged 56.

#### Females.

Alimentary Canal—8 deaths, ages 58, 88, 59, 62, 81, 72, 56, 71.  
Child Bearing Organs—4 deaths, ages 26, 69, 62, 67.

Prevention of Blindness.

No action was necessary under section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Tuberculosis.

No necessity for any action arose during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to compulsory removal.

Tuberculosis.  
New Cases and Mortality.

AGE PERIOD.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ... ..								1
1 year to 5 years ... ..				2				
5 years to 10 years ... ..	1	1	1					
10 " " 15 " ... ..	1	1						
15 " " 20 " ... ..	1							
20 " " 25 " ... ..		2	1*			1		
25 " " 35 " ... ..	3	2						
35 " " 45 " ... ..		3		1				
45 " " 55 " ... ..		1+1*						
55 " " 65 " ... ..	2				1			
65 " and over ... ..								

\*Re-notification case.

Tuberculosis.  
New Cases and Mortality.

Villages.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Kensworth ... ..		1		1				1
Houghton Regis ... ..	2	+1*		1				
Billington ... ..		1	1			1		
Heath & Reach ... ..	1	1						
Toddington ... ..	1	2						
Caddington ... ..				1				
Eaton Bray ... ..	1				1			
Sundon ... ..		1	1*					
Hockliffe ... ..	3							

\*Re-notification case.

All tuberculosis cases have been notified therefore the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is nil.

In conclusion I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Council for their consideration and support, and also the Clerk to the Council (Mr. Evans), your Surveyor (Mr. Pickering), and your Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Morgans), for their valuable assistance.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

**WALTER K. PARBURY,**

M.R.C.S. ENG , L.R.C.P. LDN.  
D.P.H. CAMB., D.M.R.E. CAMB.

June, 1939.

# Engineer and Surveyor's Annual Report, 1938.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Luton Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the year ending December 31st, 1938.

## Housing.

Plans submitted during the year totalled 198. The following is a detailed summary of these.

Dwelling Houses	...	...	193
Additions and Alterations	...	...	30
Shops	...	...	3
Garages (private)	...	...	45
Garages (commercial)	...	...	4
Petrol Pumps and Tanks	...	...	5
Layout plans	...	...	18
Industrial Buildings	...	...	11
Lime and Cement Works	...	...	1
Electricity Cable Extensions	...	...	8
New Drainage	...	...	12
Sports Pavillion	...	...	1
Cafes	...	...	4
Service Roads	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	6

Of the 198 plans submitted, 191 were approved by the Council.

## Inspections and Tests.

1. Foundations and Damp-proof Courses	...	...	...	413
2. Drains tested	...	...	...	332
3. Final Inspections :—				
Dwelling Houses	...	...	263	
Shops	...	...	2	
Motor Garages	...	...	10	
Factory Buildings	...	...	6	
Additions and Alterations	...	...	11	
Miscellaneous Buildings	...	...	5	

(1) **New Houses.**

(a) One scheme for re-housing under the Housing Act 1930 has been completed at Staunbridge where 8 houses have been erected.

Houses erected by the Council	...	...	...	...	8
Houses erected by private enterprise		...	...	...	263
Total completed in the year	...	...	...	...	271

(2) **Housing Schemes (Maintenance).**

(a) **Buildings.**

Reinforcement has been inserted to one house at Barton (1919) where defects had appeared in the foundations.

(b) **Paths.**

Tarred paths have been re-surfaced at the following schemes:—

Eggington (1919 and 1924), Hockliffe (1919 and 1924), Houghton Regis (1919 and 1924), Kensworth (1919 and 1924), Stanbridge (1919), Streatley (1919 and 1924), Studham (1919 and 1924), Sundon (1919 and 1924), Tebworth (1924), Toddington (1919 and 1924).

Paths have been re-surfaced with concrete at :—

Barton (1924), Caddington (1930), Heath and Reach (1930), Hockliffe (1919 and 1924), Stanbridge (1930), Tilsworth (1924).

(c) **Fencing.**

New Penfold Fencing has been erected at :—

Barton, Caddington, Houghton Regis, Kensworth, Slip End, Stanbridge, Sundon, Tebworth, Tilsworth, Toddington.

(d) **Floors.**

New floors of red colourcrete have been laid to replace boarded floors in houses erected under the Housing Act 1919.

Barton 2, Eaton Green 1, Houghton Regis 3, Hyde 1, Slip End 1, Studham 2, Sundon 1, Toddington 1, Totternhoe 1.

New boarded floors have been put down in the following houses erected under the Housing Act 1924 (unless otherwise stated).

Billington 1, Heath and Reach 1, Heath and Reach (1919) 1, Hyde (1919) 1, Tebworth 2, Toddington 1, Totternhoe 1.

### (e) Ceilings.

New fibre board ceilings have been fixed to replace defective plaster ceilings as follows:—

Barton (1919) 8, (1924) 6, Caddington (1919) 1, Eaton Bray (1924) 3, Eaton Green (1919) 1, Heath and Reach (1919) 1, Slip End (1919) 3, Sundon (1919) 4.

### (f) Sills.

Defective sills have been removed at Sundon (1919), Totternhoe (1919), Houghton Regis (1924) and have been replaced by bull-nose blue brick sills.

## General Decoration.

External painting has been carried out at:—

Barton, Mill Lane (1924), Eaton Bray, Bower Lane (1924), Eaton Green (1919), Eggington (1919 and 1924), Studham (1919 and 1924), Totternhoe (1930), Houghton Regis (1919 and 1924).

Internal painting has been carried out at Houghton Regis (1919 and 1924).

Internal decoration has been carried out at:—

Barton (1924), Eaton Bray, Bower Lane (1924), Northall Road (1919 and 1924), Eaton Green (1919), Hockliffe (1919 and 1924), Hyde (1919), Kensworth (1924), Stanbridge (1919), Studham (1919 and 1924).

There have been 114 changes of tenancy during the year and this has meant the internal re-decoration of practically the whole of these houses and there are cases where the tenancy is a very short one and yet the house has to be re-decorated at each change. There is one case at Caddington where the house was done throughout twice in 3 months.

The kitchen ranges have been moved from living rooms at 33 houses at Mount Pleasant, Toddington and re-set in the sculleries, tiled fireplaces being placed in the living rooms in lieu of the ranges.

The heavy gales experienced early in December were responsible for considerable damage to roofs of houses where hundreds of tiles and slates and several ridge tiles and chimney pots had to be replaced.

## WATER SUPPLY.

### Barton.

The work of laying the water mains was completed early in the year, which comprised 4542 yards of 3 inch main and 209 yards of 2 inch main, together with 25 standpipes.

Internal connections have been made to approximately seventy private dwelling houses, and also internal supplies have been afforded to the fifty-four Council Houses in the village.

A Deacons Waste Water Recording Meter was installed at the Pumping Station and records are regularly kept showing the daily consumption in the parish.



## **Caddington.**

The Caddington and Slip End water schemes have been linked up by the laying of 350 yards of 3 inch main in Manor Road, and it is now possible for a supply of water to gravitate from Caddington to Slip End and for a supply from Slip End to be pumped up to Caddington.

The 3 inch main on Mancroft Road has been extended about 180 yards to supply new building development.

Several anti-freezing standpipes have been installed in the parish in place of certain of the old pattern which were defective, and these continued to operate during the very heavy frosts experienced at the end of the year.

The pump and rods were withdrawn and the pumping gear generally over-hauled at the Slip End and Caddington pumping stations, and the tank at Caddington was cleaned out.

The pumps at Slip End have been working for 5 years without having been withdrawn and the Caddington pumps for  $8\frac{1}{2}$  years.

The water tower at the rear of the Council Houses in Markyate Road has been connected up to Slip End mains, and the pump and motor kept in working order in case of a breakdown on the Slip End plant.

## **Eaton Bray.**

The original scheme for laying 5600 yards of main has been completed, and the following additional extensions made:—

73 yards of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch main in Moor End Lane.

216 yards of 3 inch main in the Rye, and

63 yards of 2 inch main in Booth Place.

27 standpipes have been erected, which serve the village, and during the year 37 connections to private properties have been made.

Internal connections have also been provided to the 57 Council Houses in the Parish.

## **Eggington.**

894 yards of 3 inch main have been laid in Eggington from the Schools to the Council Houses, and these areas are supplied by a temporary arrangement from Claridge's Farm, owned by the Bedfordshire County Council.

The supply is limited, and only four internal connections have been permitted, the remainder of the village being supplied from six standpipes.

These mains will link up with the Battlesden scheme in due course.



## **Heath and Reach.**

A temporary supply has been provided at Heath and Reach from the mains of the Leighton Buzzard Urban District Council, and a total of 3,736 yards of 4 inch, 3 inch and 2 inch mains have been laid with 27 standpipes and 35 connections to private properties in the parish.

These mains will be connected to the Battlesden scheme in due course and a 30,000 gallons capacity reinforced concrete water tower is to be erected in connection therewith.

## **Kensworth.**

A new 12 inch borehole, 414 feet deep has been sunk at Kensworth on a site north of Isle of Wight Farm, from where it will be possible for a gravitational supply to be afforded to Kensworth, Whipsnade and Studham.

An ample supply of water was found and although comparatively hard it is of a good quality for domestic use.

Tenders have been received for laying 4 inch mains from the borehole site to connect up with the existing 3 inch mains in the village.

Approximately 350 yards of 3 inch mains have been laid along Watling Street and Beech Road, affording a supply to new building development from the mains of Dunstable Gas & Water Company.

## **Streatley.**

The Streatley Water Tower has been cleaned out and the existing roof made good in places.

Mr. Tawell, at Streatley Hall, has become a large consumer of water for horticultural purposes and on account of this it has been decided to increase both the pumping and storage capacity at the pumping station.

## **Sundon.**

The defective covering to the roof of the Sundon Water Tower has been removed and a new sheet iron roof constructed and the tank thoroughly cleaned internally.

## **Battlesden Water Scheme.**

The work in connection with the scheme for supplying the Parishes of Toddington, Chalgrave, Hockliffe, Eggington, Stanbridge, Tilsworth, Billington and Heath and Reach has progressed but considerable difficulty has arisen in procuring a suitable site for the Water Tower at Toddington.

The details of the scheme have been submitted to the Minister of Health and until the Inquiry into the scheme is held no further work can proceed.

**Water Works Attendant.**

A full time water works attendant was appointed by the Council and he commenced his duties on April 1st.

The whole of his time has been devoted in maintaining all the pumping stations fixing new fire hydrants and other repair work, and a marked improvement in the running of the pumping plant has been experienced on account of this appointment.

**Generally.**

A number of Fire Hydrants have been fixed at Caddington, Slip End, Sundon and Streatley and indicating plates fixed marking their positions.

Bacteriological and Chemical Analyses have been made of the water from the Council's boreholes, the results of which are shown in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

**SEWERAGE SCHEMES.**

**Barton.**

The sewer has been extended from the junction of Hexton Road and Old Road to a point near Hill House Farm a distance of approximately 700 yards.

Other work carried out by this department in the various Parishes is included in the Sanitary Inspector's Report (page 11) under Drainage and Sewerage.

**Toddington.**

The Contractors commenced work on the Toddington Sewerage Scheme early in the year, good progress having been made, and it is hoped to be completed early in the Spring of 1939.

**Generally.**

Reports were presented to the Council in June as to Sewerage Schemes for the various parishes as set out below :—

Streatley (including Warden Hill Area)	...	£11,960	0	0
Streatley (Warden Hill Area only)	...	£6,710	0	0
Sundon	... ..	£8,814	0	0
Barton	... ..	£7,767	0	0
Kensworth	... ..	£9,350	0	0
Heath and Reach	... ..	£11,898	0	0
Eaton Bray, Totternhoe, Stanbridge and Tilsworth	... ..	£37,750	0	0
Hockliffe and Chalgrave	... ..	£18,754	0	0

**Public Cleansing.**

The work of House Refuse Collection and the scavenging of pail closets and privies is set out under the Sanitary Inspector's report (page 13).

**Cesspool Cleansing.**

The work performed by the two vehicles engaged in emptying cesspools in the district, is indicated by the following list:—

Parish.	Cesspools emptied.		
Barton	...	...	119
Billington	...	...	23
Caddington	...	...	830
Chalgrave	...	...	47
Eaton Bray	...	...	2
Eggington	...	...	38
Heath and Reach	...	...	53
Hockliffe	...	...	38
Houghton Regis	...	...	39
Hyde	...	...	30
Kensworth	...	...	140
Stanbridge	...	...	15
Streatley	...	...	499
Studham	...	...	48
Sundon	...	...	68
Tilsworth	...	...	18
Toddington	...	...	260
Totternhoe	...	...	58
Whipsnade	...	...	10
Outside the district and water wells			18

The total number of cesspools emptied during the year was 2,353, the number of loads being 5,171.

**Sewers Flushed.**

Barton	...	...	9
Eaton Bray	...	...	9
Houghton Regis	...	...	9
Stanbridge	...	...	2
Sundon	...	...	5
Toddington	...	...	9
Totternhoe	...	...	4

## Refuse Tips.

Refuse Tips have been procured in Miletree Road, Heath and Reach, and Park Road, Toddington, and these are used and kept in a satisfactory manner by the Refuse Collection Contractors.

## STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING.

Street nameplates have been fixed, notices served on occupiers and houses numbered in the parishes of Barton, Eaton Bray, Streatley, Studham and Sundon, and nameplates fixed on new roads in the parishes of Houghton Regis, Kensworth, Totternhoe and Hyde.

## KENSWORTH RECREATION GROUND.

New fencing has been erected at Kensworth Recreation Ground on the road frontage, considerable lengths being inserted where the hedge had been pulled up and also gaps filled in in the existing hedge; a pair of iron field gates erected at one end and a hand-gate at the other. Both fence and gates were supplied by the Penfold Fencing Company.

*N.B. At the date of this report it is noted that several lengths of the fencing have been badly damaged and in one or two cases posts have been pulled up, further gaps have been made in the hedge and the double gates have also been damaged.*

## TOWN PLANNING.

Numerous consultations were held with the Ministry of Health Town Planning Department during the year, and it was eventually decided to combine Scheme No. 1 and No. 2 and to prepare one Planning Scheme for the whole of the Rural District.

In the first instance it was decided that road widening and improvement schemes should not be shown on the Planning Map, but the Minister of Health has now altered this decision, with the result that we have to await the receipt of plans showing these proposals from the Bedfordshire County Council, before any further work can be carried out to our Draft Planning Map.

Plans were submitted for a factory in Landpark Wood, Kensworth, and after numerous consultations with the owners an agreement under section 34 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1932, was entered into controlling the use of a considerable amount of land and also the preservation of the majority of the trees in Landpark and Allcroft Woods.

Willing co-operation has been rendered by the majority of estate developers in the district in carrying out the proposals of the Planning Scheme and in many instances estates have been laid out at a density less than that proposed under the Scheme.

A height zoning restriction plan was received from the Luton Borough Council for land in the parish of Hyde surrounding the Luton Airport.

It was decided by the Council to include these restrictions in the Planning Scheme, providing that any claims for compensation which might arise through enforcing same were met by the Luton Borough Council.

Plans were received showing proposed building development on land belonging to the Dunstable Downs Golf Club, and which included residential development along the whole frontage facing Dustable Downs.

After concurrence with the Bedfordshire County Council, this plan was disapproved, and negotiations are still proceeding in order to keep all development nearer Dunstable and to preserve the portions adjoining the Downs under the Chiltern Range Preservation Scheme.

### **BUILDING BYE-LAWS.**

Draft Building Bye-laws were submitted to the Council in August, and these are still receiving attention prior to being adopted.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**HAROLD PICKERING,**

M.Inst.M. & Cy.E., F.R.S.A.,

Surveyor.





